

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

Cancel claims 16, 17 and 23.

18. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22 and an enteric coating thereon.

19. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22, an intermediate coating and an enteric coating.

20. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22, an intermediate coating, an enteric coating and a moisture resistant coating.

21. (Amended) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof and (B) sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.01 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

22. (Amended) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof, (B) crospovidone and sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A), 0.01 to 2 parts by weight of sodium hydroxide and 0.5 to 5 parts by weight of crospovidone.

24. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein components (A) and (B) are uniformly mixed with each other.

25. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein (A) is mixed with a portion of (B) to form granules, then a further amount of (B) is added to the granules and mixed, then the mixture is formed into a tablet.

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cont'd*  
26. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein (A) is mixed with a portion of (B) and formed into a core, then a further amount of (B) is coated as a layer onto the core.

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31. (Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation according to any one of claims 27, 28 or 29, wherein the core further comprises an antioxidant.

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32. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core which comprises the composition of claim 21 or 22 coated with an enteric coating and further with a moisture-resistant coating.

33. (Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core which comprises the composition of claim 21 or 22 coated with an intermediate coating, further with an enteric coating and then with a moisture-resistant coating.

*[* Add the following new claim: *]*

--34. (new) The composition according to claim 21 or 22 which comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.01 to 0.05 parts by weight of (B).--